



Worship for All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1, 2020

Northeastern Iowa Synod,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Prelude

“For All the Saints”

Accordion, Sue Cira

Litany of the Saints

P: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

“For All the Saints”

ELW #422

(Public Domain)

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

A: God of all mercy and the God of all consolation comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

A: When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

A: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Thanks be to God!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lighting of Candles and Remembrance of the Saints

You are invited to light a candle in memory of beloved Saints

Wartburg College - The Wartburg Choir - "Come, Ye Disconsolate" - arr. Michael Engelhardt

P: Into your hands we commend them,
O merciful Savior, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock,
sinners of your own redeeming.
Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 215)

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Wartburg Choir Ain't No Grave, Paul Caldwell & Sean Ivory

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

9After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

11And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

13Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” 14I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

16They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

17for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Refrain:

Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD; for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)

- 1I will bless the LORD| at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.
- 2I will glory | in the LORD;
let the lowly hear | and rejoice. R
- 3Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt God's | name together.
- 4I sought the LORD, who | answered me
and delivered me from | all my terrors.
- 5Look upon the LORD| and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
- 6I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me
and saved me from | all my troubles. R
- 7The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD
and de- | livers them.
- 8Taste and see that the | LORD is good;
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!
- 9Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD,
for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.
- 10The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.
- 22O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. R

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

- 1See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
- 2Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.
- 3And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon ~ Pastor Mark Anderson

The Beatitudes by Philip W.J. Stopford, Luther College Collegiate Chorale

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

1When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl, Interim Bishop, Northeastern Iowa Synod

Virtual Choir - How Can I Keep from Singing National Lutheran Choir

CREED (LBW p. 84)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

INTERCESSION FOR THE SAINTS

P: Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A: Lord of all the saints, we praise you for evangelists and martyrs whose sacrifices witness to your gospel across time and space. Inspire us by their courage to carry our faith to new people and places around us.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: Lord of every nation guide this country—red states and blue states, rural voters and urban voters, young and old—as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every blessing, your Son's blessing came to those living with poverty, grief, hunger, thirst, and persecution. Shape our vision of the saints to match his own.

Awaken in us your call to serve all who suffer.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every venture anoint us with the missionary spirit of the early church. Bless all new missions of our synod. Empower testimony from new communities of faith to shape a diverse witness to your saving power.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort us as we grieve those who have died in the past year (In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 221)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Wartburg College - Wind Ensemble - The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
THANKS BE TO GOD!

Presiding Minister: Pastor Joelle Colville-Hanson

Preaching: The Rev. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl, Interim Bishop, Northeastern Iowa Synod

Assisting Ministers:

Pastor Mark Anderson, Assistant to the Bishop

Syd Brinkman, Northeastern Iowa Synod Vice-President

Pastor Steve Brackett, Assistant to the Bishop

Matthias Letsche, Senior Waverly-Shell Rock High School

Alison Pettit, Facilitator, Northeastern Iowa Synod Hunger Network

Lectors:

Pastor Tom Jones, Northeastern Iowa Synod Secretary

Nicole Kiefer, Senior, Luther College

Jonathon Struve, Adjunct Instructor in Music, Luther College

Musicians:

Sue Cira, TEEM, Zion, Alta Vista

Pastor Hillary Burns-Kite, St. Peter and Peace, Clayton

Pastor Susan and Norman Friedrich, Bethany, Elkader and Emanuel, Strawberry Point

Carla Janssen

Morgan Moen, Sophomore, Decorah High School

Pastor Dennis Niezwaag, Interim, Grace, Tripoli

Pastor Bryan Odeen, Our Saviors, Osage